

**Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee**

**Judge Hillary Strackbein**

**Judicial Review Council**

Good Morning Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee.

My name is Hillary Strackbein and it is an honor and a privilege to be appointed as a member of the Judicial Review Council by Governor Dannel Malloy.

My sincere thanks to this committee for the opportunity to appear before you to speak to my desire to serve on the Judicial Review Council.

I was raised in Hamden. My father was a television repairman. He owned and ran Markman TV in Hamden for over 50 years. My mother was a bookkeeper. I had two brothers. One of my brothers who ran Markman TV with my father, passed away two years ago. My other brother is a violinist in Los Angeles. I graduated from the University of Connecticut with a degree in English and then I graduated from Creighton University School of Law in Omaha Nebraska.

After three years in private practice as a solo practitioner and following the premature birth of my children, I began my career in public service as a juvenile prosecutor. I stayed in that position for 13 years until I was appointed to the bench in 2003.

I am married and have three children, a son who is 35 and twins who are 29.

I believe my experience uniquely qualifies me to serve on the Judicial Review Council. I have been involved in all aspects of the day to day functioning of the judicial system for over 25 years. I understand the many roles of all the participants which I believe gives me the ability to assist in the evaluation of the issues which are brought before the Judicial Review Council.

The Judicial Review Council is a vital part of the checks and balances of the judicial system. Our citizens need to know there is a method by which judicial complaints are heard to achieve fairness, justice and transparency. It is important for experienced judges to be a part of the Judicial Review Council because we have seen and dealt with thousands of defendants, lawyers agencies and staff and therefore we are familiar with the context in which complaints arise and are well-positioned to evaluate the strength and validity of judicial complaints.

Once again thank you for this opportunity to appear before you and I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.